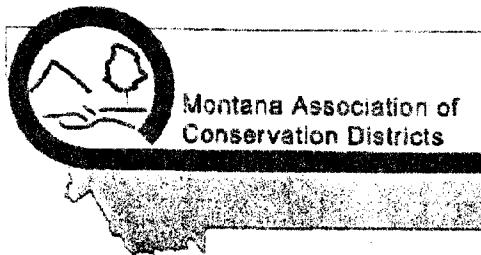


EXHIBIT P-3
DATE 3/5/07
HB 805



Montana Association of
Conservation Districts

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March 2, 2007

To: Members of the House Appropriations Committee

Representative Sinrud	Representative Jayne
Representative Taylor	Representative Kasten
Representative Franklin	Representative McChesney
Representative Beck	Representative Morgan
Representative Callahan	Representative Musgrove
Representative Clark	Representative Ripley
Representative Glaser	Representative Sesso
Representative Hawk	Representative Wells
Representative Hiner	Representative Wirtz
Representative Hollenbaugh	

From: Sarah Carlson, MACD Executive Director

Regarding **HB 805: DNRC Budget**

I would like to take this opportunity to express to you the Montana Association of Conservation District's (MACD's) concerns with HB 805.

The Missouri River Conservation Districts Council and the Yellowstone River Conservation Districts Council are important local groups focused on getting work done on the ground to the benefit of all Montanans. The current level of funding for these Councils in HB 805 is inadequate and MACD supports increasing their funding.

In addition, MACD has long supported the addition of a watershed planner position in the DNRC Conservation and Resource Development Division (CARD). Assistance is needed for individuals and groups around the state who would like to proceed with locally led, collaborative natural resource work but may lack the expertise on how to access various technical experts and funding for projects. MACD supports adding funding for this position.

Thank you for the consideration of our concerns; please contact me if you have any questions.

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